GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2349
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2008
VILLAGE GRAIN BANKS SCHEME
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of grain banks set up under the Village Grain Bank Scheme, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of foodgrains released to these banks during the last two years, year-wise;

(c) whether the working and efficiency of the scheme has since been evaluated and views of beneficiaries sought;

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof indicating the extent to which it has been successful in staying off starvation and malnourishment;

(e) whether any changes are proposed to be incorporated in the scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): 14,979 Village Grain Banks (VGBs) have been sanctioned by the Department of Food & Public Distribution in 20 States since 2005-06 till date.A statement showing the number of VGBs sanctioned by the Department and those set up as reported by the State Governments,the quantum of food grains allocated/released to these grain banks during the last two years 2006-07 & 2007-08 is annexed.

(c) & (d): The functioning of the scheme has been evaluated by World Food Programme in Orissa and Chhattisgarh.The draft evaluation report in respect of Orissa and Chhattisgarh has been received by the Department in November 2008.It has reported that presence of grain banks has significantly improved food security and migration status of the villagers.The functioning of the VGBs in seventeen States is also proposed to be evaluated during current year.

(e) & (f): Modification to the scheme,if any,may be considered only after receipt of the evaluation report.